

## Opioid receptors (version 2019.4) in the IUPHAR/BPS Guide to Pharmacology Database

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### Abstract

Opioid and opioid-like receptors are activated by a variety of endogenous peptides including [Met]enkephalin (met), [Leu]enkephalin (leu),  $\beta$ -endorphin ( $\beta$ -end),  $\alpha$ -neodynorphin, dynorphin A (dynA), dynorphin B (dynB), big dynorphin (Big dyn), nociceptin/orphanin FQ (N/OFQ); endomorphin-1 and endomorphin-2 are also potential endogenous peptides. The Greek letter nomenclature for the opioid receptors,  $\mu$ ,  $\delta$  and  $\kappa$ , is well established, and **NC-IUPHAR** considers this nomenclature appropriate, along with the symbols spelled out (mu, delta, and kappa), and the acronyms, MOP, DOP, and KOP. [116, 96, 88]. The human N/OFQ receptor, NOP, is considered 'opioid-related' rather than opioid because, while it exhibits a high degree of structural homology with the conventional opioid receptors [282], it displays a distinct pharmacology. Currently there are numerous clinically used drugs, such as morphine and many other opioid analgesics, as well as antagonists such as naloxone, however only for the  $\mu$  receptor.

## Contents

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